

America takes pride in her diversity and I am afraid that we are rapidly losing the diversity of voices available to us through the media.

I am very concerned about the consolidation of the media in this country. In a vibrant democracy, the media is supposed to serve as an informer and protector, but with the waves of media mergers in recent years, I think it is losing this role. If the FCC decides to further relax the regulations on media ownership, the situation will only get worse and democracy will be dealt a major blow.

Allowing ownership of a print and broadcast media outlet in one market by one entity would be a dangerous mistake. You claim the change would be made in the name of increased competition, but we have already seen what happens when you "increase competition" through deregulation—mergers and consolidation, which result in less competition. For proof of this, look no further than radio where Clear Channel has purchased over 1,200 radio stations since rules were relaxed in 1996. Please, don't let this happen to newspapers and television as well.

I cannot see how allowing the further consolidation of the media will better serve America. Look at what it has done to radio. Remember, these are our airwaves and they should serve the American people and not the interests of a few corporations.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Miller